

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of June 12-June 16, 2006**

- 1. Community Center Now Completely Open!:** Phase II of the Takoma Park Community Center is completed and the doors from the rear parking lot are now open! Come in and look at the wonderful new rooms: Game Room, Dance Studio, Teen Lounge, the Hydrangea Meeting Room, accessible bathrooms, and interior connections to the Computer Learning Center and Library. Recreation Department staff will move into their renovated office space next week. Some minor work remains to be done and an additional elevator will be installed in the front of the building in the fall, but the big job is done! Come and enjoy! *(Community & Government Liaison)*
- 2. Rec Around the Block:** Come celebrate the opening of Phase II of the Community Center! This is a **FREE** 2-day event with door prizes, refreshments, video games, contests, and more! The program schedule is as follows: Thursday, June 15, Grades 1-5, 4:00pm-6:00pm; Grades 6-8, 7:00pm-10:00pm, and Friday, June 16, all High School grades, from 7:00pm-10:00pm. People of all ages are welcome! *(Recreation)*
- 3. Fire Station Project:** Montgomery County and the Hevia family have signed the contract for the sale of 7135 Carroll Avenue to the County and the sale of 7133 Carroll Avenue to the Hevia's. The renovation work is almost complete (waiting on one bathroom vanity top and touch up exterior painting). Once the family moves, work on the construction of the new Fire Station may proceed. *(Public Works)*
- 4. Street Repairs (Ward 1):** The City contractor completed the repair of sections of Fenton Avenue between Takoma Avenue and New York Avenue. Extensive base repair work was required to correct subsurface conditions that lead to a premature failure of several areas of the street. *(Public Works)*
- 5. Street Restoration (Wards 1 & 6):** The planned resurfacing of Spruce Avenue and Glenside Court was delayed due to rain and contractor scheduling. The street resurfacing has been rescheduled for Monday and Tuesday, June 19 & 20. *(Public Works)*
- 6. Officers in Training:** Cpl. Nick Carter and Cpl. Tina Smith are attending the two-week First Line Supervisors training required by the State for all newly promoted supervisors. Capt. Coursey and Carol Bannerman attended training in use of a satellite phone received via National Capital Region's Urban Area Security Initiative (NCR UASI) funding for use in disasters and emergencies. *(Police)*
- 7. Acting Chief Coursey:** Capt. Edward Coursey has assumed the position of Interim Chief. On Monday, Lt. Richard Cipperly, Commander of Support Services, will become Acting Commander of Operations to cover Capt. Coursey's duties and D/Sgt. Tyrone Collington will become Acting Lieutenant as the Acting Commander of the Investigative Unit and Det. Richard Poole will be Acting Sergeant in that unit. *(Police)*
- 8. Search Warrants (Ward 4):** Criminal Investigations conducted simultaneous search warrants last week at a residence in Hyattsville and a business in the 7600 block of Maple Avenue, seizing more than 1-1/2 pounds of marijuana and a handgun. The proprietors were charged with several drug charges including distribution. *(Police)*

9. **A Death in the City (Ward 2):** A homicide occurred Saturday evening in the 700 block of Ethan Allen, near the junction of Hwy. 410 and New Hampshire Avenue. Patrol officers detained a suspect nearby who has been charged with the crime. Detectives have executed additional search warrants this week as part of that investigation. Neither the victims nor the suspect are from Takoma Park. *(Police)*

10. **Officers in Meetings:** The COP Team has attended community meetings at Park Ritchie Apartments and with the New Hampshire Avenue Enterprise Business group, as well as a planning session for summer sports programs at Blair High School. The team hosted the AARP Driver Safety class last week with 22 registrants; given the success of the class, an additional session will be scheduled in the future. *(Police)*

11. **Noise Abatement Charge:** The COP Team's Nuisance Abatement Specialist has charged a New Hampshire Avenue business with a noise ordinance violation. Although located in a business district, the company exceeds the noise level in an adjacent residential area. After three attempts to improve the situation, a citation has been issued. *(Police)*

12. **The New Children's Services Coordinator:** Karen MacPherson will join the Library staff in August as Children's Services Coordinator. Meanwhile Karen is working with Jillian Hershberger and interning at the Library while she completes her Master of Library Sciences (MLS) degree at the University of Maryland. Karen already has her Masters Degree in Journalism, and has developed a broad knowledge of children's literature during her long career reviewing children's books and writing about children's issues for the Scripps Howard News Service and several newspapers. As a long-time Takoma Park resident, Karen has already developed strong ties with local schools and the community at large. She looks forward to sharing and building on her knowledge of children and books in her new position at the Takoma Park Library. *(Library)*

13. **A Bittersweet Bon Voyage:** A public reception will be held for departing Children's Services Coordinator Jillian Hershberger in the Azalea Room of the Community Center on July 24th from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. This is an opportunity for young and old alike to visit with Jillian and extend their good wishes as she prepares for new adventures in Santa Fe. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome! *(Library)*

14. **Summer Quest:** Sign-up for this year's magical Summer Quest program! The program begins Friday, June 16. Get your passport for the newest interactive reading adventure by Dave Burbank. As usual, the game will be full of choices, twists and surprises! So sign up and begin reading! *(Library)*

15. **Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (Ward 2):** It has come to our attention that the rental property located at 701-03 Ethan Allen Avenue has been sold without Montgomery County's approval and without the tenants being provided an opportunity to exercise their right to purchase under the Takoma Park City Code. An investigation is underway and action will be taken to preserve the tenants' rights. The tenants formed a tenants association with the assistance of the Tenant Capacity Building Program on May 11th and registered with the City on May 15th. An expression of interest was also sent to the landlord's agent that same day. *(Housing and Community Development)*

16. **Cable and Webcast Coverages:** City TV staff videotaped last Friday's 2006 Police Department Awards Ceremony. It will play on City TV-13 and is also available for

viewing as a webcast on the City website. City TV also covered the 8 hour Jazz Fest on Saturday, June 10, using the PEG Network van. It was a beautiful day and a very successful event all around. *(City TV)*

**17. What's Going On In the City?:** City TV will be airing the Takoma Voice sponsored Candidate's Forum Thursday, June 15th, as well as upcoming candidates' events on the 22nd and in July. City TV staff will also be covering the "Rec Around the Block" events on Thursday, June 15th, and Friday, June 16th, which celebrate the grand opening of the remainder of the Community Center. *(City TV)*

**18. County Recreation Meeting Held:** Montgomery County's Silver Spring Recreation Advisory Board held their June meeting in Takoma-Piney Branch Park, at the shelter near Ed Wilhelm Field. Members, County Rec staff and new M-NCPPC Director of Parks Mary Bradford saw first-hand the need for renovation of the park. The concept design for the work has been approved by the Planning Board, detailed engineering takes place in FY07 and construction will begin FY08 (the year beginning July 2007). For more information, contact Suzanne Ludlow, [SuzanneL@takomagov.org](mailto:SuzanneL@takomagov.org) or 301-891-7229. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

**19. Purple Line Activities:** The Maryland Transit Administration has been holding open house-style public meetings on plans for the Bi-County Transitway (or "Purple Line"), a transit line that is proposed to connect Bethesda and New Carrollton, via Silver Spring, Long Branch and Takoma/Langleys. Detailed information and drawings can be found on the State's web site: [www.Bi-CountyTransitway.com](http://www.Bi-CountyTransitway.com). Advocates for the Purple Line have been holding public displays of support at various locations along the proposed route. See [www.purplelinenow.com](http://www.purplelinenow.com) for local information. The City of Takoma Park has gone on record as supporting the Bi-County Transitway / Purple Line. *(Community & Government Liaison)*